AMENDMENT TO CLAIMS:

1-15. (Canceled)

16-29. (Canceled)

30. (New)   A network system for processing data residing in a virtual space activated on a network, said network system comprising:

a plurality of terminal devices for a plurality of participants to participate in said virtual space;

a virtual-space creating server to create and activate said virtual space in which said plurality of participants can conduct economical activities for each other;

a virtual-currency creating server to create a virtual currency being effective in said virtual space as a counter-value for said economical activities conducted by each of said plurality of participants;

a virtual-currency storage device that is provided with first deposit accounts for said plurality of participants so that each of said plurality of participants can deposit or withdraw said virtual currency into/from said virtual-currency storage device;

a value-information storage device that is provided with second deposit accounts for said plurality of participants so that each of said plurality of participants can deposit or withdraw value information, which represent a value acquired as a result of said economic activities

conducted by each of said plurality of participants, into/from said value-information storage device; and

a currency exchanging server to exchange said virtual currency for a real currency being effective in a real world or for another virtual currency being effective in another virtual space;

wherein said plurality of terminal devices, said virtual-space creating server, said virtual-currency creating server, said virtual-currency storage device, said value-information storage device and said currency exchanging server are coupled to each other through said network, so that said virtual currency, said value information, said real currency and said other virtual currency are

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exchangeable for each other; and

wherein said currency exchanging server evaluates said virtual currency in comparison with said real currency or with said other virtual currency so as to determine a floating exchange rate in response to a current status of a fluctuating value balance between said virtual currency and said real currency or said other virtual currency, and then, exchanges said virtual currency for said real currency or said other virtual currency, based on said floating exchange rate.

31. (New)   The network system of claim 30,

wherein a value of said value information is represented by value data indicating an amount of said virtual currency, and said value information are deposited or withdrawn into/from said value-information storage device, while being correlated with said value data.

32. (New)   The network system of claim 30,

wherein a value of said value information is represented by value data indicating an amount of said virtual currency; and said network system further comprising:

a value-information evaluating server to evaluate said value information, so as to generate said value data based on a result of evaluating said value information.

33. (New)   The network system of claim 30, further comprising:

an identification-data generating server to generate identification data sets, each of which is attached to each of said plurality of participants, between which said virtual currency is exchanged within said virtual space.

34. (New)   The network system of claim 33, further comprising:

a determining server to determine whether or not each of said plurality of participants is authorized to participate in said virtual space, based on each of said identification data sets generated by said identification-data generating server, so that said determining section allows a participant, having an authorized identification data set, to participate in said virtual space.

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35. (New)   The network system of claim 33,

wherein said value information are deposited or withdrawn into/from said value-information storage device, while being correlated with said identification data set.

36. (New)   The network system of claim 33,

wherein said virtual currency are deposited or withdrawn into/from said virtual-currency storage device, while being correlated with said identification data set.

37. (New)   The network system of claim 30,

wherein said value information are image information.

38. (New)   The network system of claim 30,

wherein said virtual currency is paid to a participant, being one of said plurality of participants, as reward for a time period in which said participant is restricted to said economical activities in said virtual space.

39. (New)   A program for executing operations for processing data residing in a virtual space activated on a network, through which a plurality of terminal devices for a plurality of participants to participate in said virtual space, a virtual-currency storage device and a value-information storage device are coupled to each other, said program comprising the functional steps of:

creating and activating said virtual space in which said plurality of participants can conduct economical activities for each other;

creating a virtual currency being effective in said virtual space as a counter-value for said economical activities conducted by each of said plurality of participants;

providing first deposit accounts for said plurality of participants in said virtual-currency storage device so that each of said plurality of participants can deposit or withdraw said virtual currency into/from said virtual-currency storage device;

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providing second deposit accounts for said plurality of participants in said value-information storage device so that each of said plurality of participants can deposit or withdraw value information, which represent a value acquired as a result of said economic activities conducted by each of said plurality of participants, into/from said value-information storage device;

exchanging said virtual currency for a real currency being effective in a real world or for another virtual currency being effective in another virtual space;

wherein, in said exchanging functional step, said virtual currency is evaluated in comparison with said real currency or with said other virtual currency so as to determine a floating exchange rate in response to a current status of a fluctuating value balance between said virtual currency and said real currency or said other virtual currency, and then, said virtual currency is exchanged for said real currency or said other virtual currency, based on said floating exchange rate.

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